From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 17:21:06 1995
Message-Id: <9501251636.AA08635@cg-atla.agfa.com>
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 11:36:33 -0500
From: ames!cg-atla.agfa.com!leduc@dlb.com (Dave Leduc)
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>

subscribe QRP-L

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 21:14:20 1995
Message-Id: <9501252035.AA06166@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 15:35:16 EST
From: Bill Acito 25-Jan-1995 1528 <acito@asdg.enet.dec.com>
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>

I came off Field Day in June having worked in a QRP outfit... my interest in this portion of the hobby was quickly rekindled (the highlight was working Hawaii from Massachusetts on 20 with a loop antenna at 2am). I blew off the dust on my HW9, and picked up 40-40. I promptly joined QRP-NE, and ARCI in July.

To date, I have received one issue of 72, and heard nothing from ARCI.

Did I catch the tail end of the subscription period, and need to renew?

Does anyone have current membership rep contacts for both groups I can contact?

Thanks,

b

KC1GS/qrp QRP-NE #260 ARRL Life Member

. . . . . .

- I own my own words -

+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+ Digital Equipment Corporation Bill Acito
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Semiconductor, Fab 6
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+ Hudson, Massachusetts acito@asdg.enet.dec.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 03:09:51 1995

From: N8ET@delphi.com
Date: Tue, 24 Jan 1995 23:16:37 -0500 (EST)
Subject: Another one down the dumper!
Message-Id: <01HM8Q8MRKJE9068C9@delphi.com>

As a "kit supplier" I am afraid that I have to agree with the comments printed in your post.

Not a very big market, and the average level of expertise has gone down - you would not believe some of the questions I get on the fone and in letters. The boards that come back for repair (I do that only when it is obvious that I will spend less time fixing the kit than I will spend on the fone with the guy trying to explain some relatively simple things...) are constructed incredibly poorly - I have seen some that looked like the solder was melted at a very high altitude and thrown at the board..... does not make good joints - but does make good bridges.

If I had to do this for a living I would have starved a long time ago - good thing it is just a hobby!

72/73 - Bill - N8ET
Kanga US
n8et@delphi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Jan 26 00:52:15 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 21:11:54 -0500
Message-Id: <950125204429_6875203@aol.com>
Subject: Re: CMOS Super Keyer II -- ba...

I'm told the 3 AA batteries will last about 6 months to a year depending on usage. They back up the memories. So if you go from AA to 9v, the total current will be considerably less and the keyer will lose its memory and cease to function more often, perhaps in 3 to 6 months. If thats ok with you, then go for it.

My thinking is, make it last as long as possible, especially if you take your keyer into the field. the last thing you need is to have the battery die after the first hour of field day and you didnt bring any spare batteries with you.

I looked at the single 4.5v cell. its a possibility, but its a mail order item and hard to find locally. so if it dies and you dont have a spare, your keyer is worthless.

It might be nice to add a regulator to the keyer, to drop the voltage from 12 vdc to 5 vdc, then if the AA or 9 vcd batterys die, you can always tap into the same 12 volt battery you use to power the rest of your station. As long

as you brought a cable to connect it to.

In the Apr 93 ARCI Quarterly on page 27, theres a neat trick using a 9v battery strickly as back up with diodes. a 12 volt power source supplies the operating voltage to the CMOS-2 keyer, when its unplugged the battery takes ov er. That would be great for home use, and the 9 volt would only have to back up the memorys at microwatt levels. It would then have more current avail for portable use.

I've heard many reports of anxious QRP'ers who take all their equipment into the field, only to discover, they left one cable at home and they cant operate the station without it. Every QRP'ers nightmare !!!

I've considered various battery alternatives, but the AA approach sounds like the best one, AA's are available at every Podunkville corner store and gas station. theres alot to be said for easily available parts.

72, Byron WA8LCZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 18:26:31 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 15:14:47 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9501252114.AA15099@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Curtis Chip PostScript

Gang,

Someone gave me a copy in PostScript format of the document!! Is this group great or what.

Try ftp sgi.sgi.com for anonymous ftp. In directory pub there is a 8044.ps file. It's over 1MB, so copy across and then print to your favorite PostScript printer. When you photocopy give credit to Curtis Electro Devices.

It is my understanding that the (415) 964-3846 number is no longer in service and when I tried it I got the famous "no longer in service" message. Don't know about the PO Box.

FYI

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 22:17:37 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 15:58:55 +0800
From: Raymond.Anderson@Eng.Sun.COM (Ray Anderson)
Message-Id: <9501252358.AA04134@radium.Eng.Sun.COM>
Subject: Re: Curtis Chip PostScript

> From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 15:24:33 1995
> Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 15:14:47 -0600
> From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
> To: qrp-l@netcom.com
> Subject: Curtis Chip PostScript
> Sender: owner-qrp-l@netcom.com
> Content-Length: 549
>
>
> Try ftp sgi.sgi.com for anonymous ftp. In directory
> pub there is a 8044.ps file. It's over 1MB, so copy
> across and then print to your favorite PostScript
> printer. When you photocopy give credit to Curtis
> Electro Devices.
> FYI
>
> Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com
>

Thanks Chuck!! BTW, your file is on ftp.sgi.com not
sgi.sgi.com. That might confuse some people.

72 de WB6TPU, Ray
raymonda@radium.eng.sun.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 10:23:38 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 07:55:01 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9501251355.AA13719@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Curtis Notes

Gang,

I don't know why I continue to do this, but stupid is
- stupid does.

I got back email from several people noting that they
have tried for months with fax, phone, and smoke sigs
to get the app notes from Curtis. Even one who has
bought an appreciable number of their devices, so out
of my own lack of common sense I will make the following

offer.

If you send me email, I will send a copy out to you. It's
five pages, front and back.

But wait!! There are T&C's (terms and conditions). You
will owe me $1 US and you should send it to me at your
convenience. Please no checks. You remember the deal on
the schematics over 1.5 yrs ago. I still have those checks.
:-) They're in the mail back to those who sent them. :-)
Same with the K5FO newsletter funds. I'm broke now. :-)

T&C's

1. $1 to K5FO
2. You make copies and distribute to your club, friends,
    relatives, neighbors, and the street people. :-)

Just to show you how much money I'm really going to make
on this deal and I don't know why I didn't think of it
before ---- $0.32 postage + $0.25 copying costs + $0.05
envelope + $0.05 gas + $0.00 for my time = $0.67 thus
leaving me with a profit of $0.33, which will handle
the postage for one QSL card, so that should do it. :-)

I weighed the letter and five pages on a super duper
postage meter and it comes out to 1.00 oz exact, so
hopefully there will be no postage due.

WA4OSR and K6QQ is in the mail. If your address is
different that callbook 1994 QRZ CDrom, let me know.

Operators are standing by to take your order.... :-)
"Judy at Time-Life"

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 20:08:16 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 15:44:10 PST
From: joe@expersoft.com (Joe Gervais)
Message-Id: <9501252344.AA13256@chomolangma.expersoft.com>
Subject: Endangered Kit Suppliers

Howdy all,

After reading a few different messages regarding kit/parts suppliers drying up, I began to wonder if a significant factor in the whole state of affairs could be the success of club kits, such as the NorCal and NE-QRP kits, combined with the growth of parts giants like DigiKey and Mouser.

As far as kits go, the XX-40 offerings combined with the NorCal-40/40a and Sierra have provided quality kits (in both design and components) at rock-bottom prices. I imagine this would put a squeeze on those commercial kit providers who were working close to the margin already.

I'm not denying that the (apparent) shrinking of commercial kit offerings is unfortunate, but perhaps it represents a shift in focus rather than a dying breed.

The situation with parts is slightly different - where the clubs are essentially not-for-(alot of)-profit and hence have low prices, the parts giants deal with volume and can therefore work much closer to the margin as well.

Anyway, sorry if some consider this a waste of bandwidth. I'm about to build my first kit (stamping my feet as I wait for the NorCal-40a to grace my doorstep...) and I figure I'm a dinosaur as it is. The thought that my latest and greatest hobby may be going extinct before I even get started in it is just too depressing to consider. :)

Thanks for your time/bytes.

7.3 de KD6PRD,

-Joe

Two-way QRP WAS: 2 down, 48 to go! (Ouch!)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 15:34:16 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 09:36:54 -0700 (MST)
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: Re: epiphyte: 4.19 mhz resonator
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950125093603.24221C@ume>

I believe I got an email message from someone who used the surface mount
unit and had some problems (ultimately overcome)

****
Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)   *   VE6GK
Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca   * NorCal 519 ARCI 7099 GQRP 8329
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276   * "Power is no subsitute for skill"
****

On Tue, 24 Jan 1995, DJ Wang wrote:

>
> >
> > Has anyone tried AA3HB for a source of resonators? Phone: (717)697-8595
> > de Cameron, KT3A
> >
>
> Digi-Key (1-800-344-4539) have them but they are the surface-mount type.
> They are made by Panasonic.
>
> The single unit price is $1.52 and 10 for $13.04. The part number is :
> PX419ECT-ND.
>
> 72's DE D.J., N2YKP
>
>
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 18:35:08 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 16:09:00 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9501252209.AA15184@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Explorer Mod

for OHR owners of Explorer and you haven't built
or have built and wanna do this mod:

C350 and C349 - remove both
R336 which is 1K - change to 470 ohms
solder 10uF electrolytic to bottom of board
   between emitter and collector of Q308 with
   + lead of cap to emitter of Q308 and
   - lead of cap to collector of Q308.

Careful on underside to not short anything.

This mod will eliminate a key click on the air.

FYI

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Jan 26 01:07:34 1995
From: BCdlr@aol.com
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 21:47:33 -0500
Message-Id: <950125214147_6931871@aol.com>
Subject: Folded Dipole Cont.

Thanks to all the responses! I am going to put up a folded dipole sloper this week. I've got a kid that can climb like a monkey, so she's going up the tree. In the '89 handbook there is a folded dipole in chapter 33 for portable operation, page 33-14, there is a little bit on page 17-4, and some more on page 16-6. The thing I'm puzzled about is the "shorting stub". For TV type twinlead they suggest putting a shorting stub in the top section, ch. 33 says stub should be 86% of the distance from center to end, ch. 17 says 82%, and ch. 16 says 85%. Anybody got an idea about the difference in the numbers? Should I even worry about it? The neat thing about the portable one in ch. 33 is the "matching stub" at the end. The put a cap, and a length of twinlead to lower the impedance to 50 ohms. It still requires a 1:1 balun though and it lowers the bandwidth, so I'll probably use a balun and a transmatch and forget about the matching section.
Thanks again for the responses, now that I've got my receiver finished finally, (a Neophyte, QST 2/88), I need an antenna! 40 meter QRP here I come!
Dan Reynolds, BCdlr@aol.com
2580 Euel St.
Decatur, IL 62521
217/422-2783 home 217/422-2949 work [fax autoswitch]

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 03:09:44 1995
Date: Tue, 24 Jan 1995 21:21:45 -0700 (MST)
From: Richard Kendrick <rrk@ramp.com>
Subject: Re: Folded Dipole?
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9501242102.A984-0100000@taz.ramp.com>

On Tue, 24 Jan 1995 BCdlr@aol.com wrote:
> This is probably a dumb question, but I got to ask. Can you take a folded
> dipole and use it as a sloper? Would the feedline have to come off at a 90
> still?

Yes, and yes, if the trees are cooperative. Otherwise, just put it up anyways.

> I want to work 40 meter QRP but I don't have space for a regular dipole,
> (rental house, lots of power/phone/cable lines, etc..), but I got a tree or
> two.
> I know this one will be dumb as well, can you make a vertical by running a
> wire up a tree? I've read the books, and I know what they say, but would
> someone who has built/used both tell me what they think of slopers and
> verticals? Thanks!

Yes, but you might incurr some loss from the tree absorbing rf. Verticals
tend to receive more noise because noise is predominately vertically
polarized. The sloper will pick up more noise than a horizontal dipole,
but less than a vertical. Will it pick up fifty percent less than a
vertical because it's at a fortyfive degree angle? Theoretically, yes.
However, proximity to ground, rf absorbtion by the trees, and moisture
density on and in the leaves will all affect the antenna.

Bottom line: you've got some room, the antenna fits, it loads up, use it.
You just might surprise yourself with what you can work.

Richard Kendrick CET WA7TWI
Amateur Radio Extra Class
QRP #4129/G-QRP #8591/MI-QRP #M-1412
Phoenix, AZ email: rrk@ramp.com

Do not adjust your mind, there is a fault in reality.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 06:43:52 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 15:35:46 +0700 (GMT)
From: Bruce Strong <hs0zbo@sura1.sut.ac.th>
Subject: Re: Folded Dipole?
Message-Id: <Pine.ISC.3.90.950125153513.5992A-100000@sura1.sut.ac.th>

On Tue, 24 Jan 1995 BCdlr@aol.com wrote:

> This is probably a dumb question, but I got to ask. Can you take a folded
> dipole and use it as a sloper? Would the feedline have to come off at a 90
> still?
> I want to work 40 meter QRP but I don't have space for a regular dipole,
> (rental house, lots of power/phone/cable lines, etc..), but I got a tree or
> two.
> I know this one will be dumb as well, can you make a vertical by running a
> wire up a tree? I've read the books, and I know what they say, but would
> someone who has built/used both tell me what they think of slopers and
> verticals? Thanks!
> Dan Reynolds, bcdlr@aol.com
>

Go for it and see how it works!! Then write us and let us know.

bruce
hs0zbo (Thailand)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 21:35:00 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 16:10:30 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9501252210.AA15191@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: FORGET IT - NOT EXPLORER MOD

Gang,

WOW, I blew it big time......

That mod was for the Classic, NOT the
EXPLORER. Sorry sorry sorry.

My apologies to all those that I scared.

I'm outta here.

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 17:14:04 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 09:07:54 -0700 (MST)
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: G4ZNQ Stockton Power Meter
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950125085944.24221B-100000@ume>

Another newbie question.
Original sprat article circa 1990 vrs W1FB
Design Notebook (page 173). The former states a metal enclosure is
essential. The latter uses a pc board with capacitors and rf choke
in ciruit. These certainly look like ways to reduce rf feed back into
circuit. My question: If I use the metal enclosure ala sprat and the
Kangas kit description can I ignore the rf choke/caps?
Any practical experience out there with this circuit?????
By the way, I picked up a qrp dual reading wattmeter (just the meter)
from MFJ for 12 bucks.....I wanted to keep the box small!) It is reads in
ranges of 6 or 300 watts.....you know the range I am interested in.
Thanks
****
Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) * VE6GK

Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca   * NorCal 519 ARCI 7099 GQRP 8329
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276   * "Power is no subsitute for skill"
****

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 05:30:07 1995
Message-Id: <MAILQUEUE-101.950125091338.352@fs1-kfih.azr.nl>
From: "Joop Stakenborg : PA3ABA" <stakenborg@hyph.azr.nl>
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 09:13:38 CET
Subject: how to subscribe for DX?

Does anyone know how to subscribe for the DX-list
at UCSD.EDU? I have also heard about a ham-digital
group. Where can I find it?

73's Joop PA3ABA

:++:
:   Joop Stakenborg   :
:   Department of Hyperthermia   :
:   Dr. Daniel den Hoed Cancer Center   :
: P.O.Box 5201, 3008 AE Rotterdam, the Netherlands :
:   tel: +31104391676   fax:+31104851559   :
:   e-mail: stakenborg@hyph.azr.nl   :
:++:

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 11:56:01 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 11:46:11 GMT
From: Goran Hosinsky <hosinsky@royac4.royac.iac.es>
Message-Id: <9501251146.AA05425@royac4.royac.iac.es>
Subject: how to subscribe for DX?

send mail to listserv@ucsd.edu   with text:
help
index
and you will get the information
73 Goran ea8yu

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 17:10:24 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 10:29:43 CST
Subject: Internet
Message-Id: <1FBB76A06EC@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Here I am at the university with Internet, Email and all sorts of
other things wired into my office computer by the university. I
basically have learned these things because they are right here in my

office. Many campus things show up on the Email which is all right
with me. It cuts down on the paper in my mailbox. Would you believe
I have colleagues who have never even looked at their Email and
probably never will??

Now my reason for this note. I am thinking of setting up my computer
at home for some of this same stuff. I have seen various comments on
here about which service to use, costs, etc. Could you please send
me some information directly? I know there is America Online, Delphi
and others that I do not know about. May I have your input?

Thanks for the information.

72 & 73 de Tim WB9NLZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 10:24:39 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 09:35:02 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: Need help.
Message-Id: <Pine.ULT.3.91.950125093206.22825B-100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Rich - if you write (email on Compuserve Hamnet) MFJ they will provide
the info you need. They typically don't charge for manuals etc - which
is a good marketing practice in my book.

Good luck and have fun.

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

On Tue, 24 Jan 1995 CQC@aol.com wrote:

> The swapfest in Loveland, Colorado, had more QRP equipment for sale than I
> have seen at a Colorado swapfest before.
>
> I need help on 2 items I purchased.
>
> 1) MFJ-9020. In transmit it "takes off". The board is the original Rev.1.
> What changes have taked place that might help this between Rev.1 and the
> current Rev.5? The RX is very good. It has the keyer and filter installed.
>
> 2) MFJ-481. Does anyone have a manual for the 481 Grand Master Memory Keyer
> that I can copy?
>
> Any help would be appreciated.
>
> Rich W0HEP
> CQC@aol.com
> Fax: 800-344-0740

> "Life's too short for $800 finals"
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 09:32:09 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 08:05:00 -0500
From: "david (d.) burniston" <davidgb@bnr.ca>
Message-Id: <"20020 Wed Jan 25 08:06:31 1995"@bnr.ca>
Subject: NN1G SW30 kit update

It's running!

The receiver came up right off but had some difficulty with loss of
sidetone at 1.5W - worked ok at lower output.

Fired a message of to Dave and tested my theory and had the rig running
by the time the reply came back. Thanks to Dave for the quick response
to confirm my suspicions.

Looking forward to my first 30M qso.

... Dave

==
Dave Burniston, VE3LFO   Bell Northern Research Ottawa, ON Canada
ph.(613) 765-3579   email: davidgb@bnr.ca
NORCAL 434

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 19:18:46 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 10:58:34 -0500 (EST)
From: Jim Stafford-W4QO <w4qo@america.net>
Subject: Novice Roundup Dates and Times
Message-Id: <Pine.SV4.3.91.950125104550.27970B-100000@atl1.america.net>

Novice Roundup starts on Friday evening at 0000Z January 28, 1995 and
ends Sunday evening at 2400Z on February 5, 1995. So the contest
runs for 9 whole days and activity can be spread out, usually in
the evenings. Also, activity picks up near the second weekend as
more novi-techs figure out what is going on and join the fray.

Exchange is RST+ARRL Section or country for DX. Novices will sign /N and
technicians will sign /T after their call to show who is "in the contest"
versus those helping out. Watch for those calls like W4QO/N which will be

a novice operating a higher class station. However, I usually "turn over the keys to the visiting ham" so they can use their call and enjoy the thrill of receiving the QSL cards.

BTW, you can do some nice QSLs on a Mac (or PC) and run some heavier "card" stock through the laser printer for the new ham who needs a dozen or so to answer the NR QSLs. You can get three to the page and cut them up with sissors.

Try the NR - it is fun, and for those who know a newer type ham who doesn't have a station on HF, invite them to yours. I have made some great friends this way.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 17:48:51 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 14:47:05 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9501252047.AA15048@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: OHR Kits Only

Gang,

Talked to Dick at OHR. He too is getting out of the parts business in the March timeframe. So, if you are ordering parts from his catalog, be sure to call to see what is in stock.

He is doing only kits and plans on expanding the number of kits in the future.

So it looks like that Dan's Small Parts & Kits in Missoula MT is getting the be one of the few "small" places other than Mouser and DigiKey to get parts any more. I think it's a sign of the times for experimenters or the lack thereof.

This group is a dying breed.............

Show 'em how to solder and you teach 'em how to build. Be an Elmer.

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 10:34:50 1995
Message-Id: <199501251357.FAA27911@netcom6.netcom.com>

Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 08:58:42 -0500
From: pelt@vt.edu (Randy Pelt)
Subject: paddles

After seeing all the discussion on this net about electronic keyers, I just had to break down and buy a new one. I bought a deluxe iambic vibroplex. I don't use the iambic function but I like the dual paddles. This is a great keyer, I think the best one I've ever had. It has a better feel than my bencher and it certainly looks better.

I've owned many vibroplex keyers and bugs before, and I think the quality of the keys has gone up now that a ham owns Vibroplex. Anyhow, guys I want to thank you all for costing me $120.

72,73

Ranson J. Pelt CPA,CBA
Internal Audit Manager
Virginia Tech 0328
Blacksburg, VA 24061
(703) 231-9475 FAX (703) 231-4681

QST de nz4i ex w4wyt Semper Fi

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 11:36:10 1995
From: Duncan Cadd <dcadd@luc.ac.be>
Message-Id: <9501251500.AA21825@alpha>
Subject: please subscribe
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 16:00:09 +0100 (MET)

please subscribe

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 22:04:21 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 15:19:32 -0500 (EST)
From: CEBIK@utkvx.utk.edu
Subject: qrp publications and publications of interest to qrpers
Message-Id: <01HM9NRP2K7C8YCG8B@utkvx.utk.edu>

To everyone who reads QRP magazines and newsletters:

As part of the effort, being led by Richard, DL8MFQ/AA8CP, to gather information for one or more QRP FAQs, I have offered to

collect information on magazines-journals-periodicals of
significant interest to QRP enthusiasts. I can put together
information on the QRP Quarterly and SPRAT from issues I receive,
but many of you have taken others for many years and can provide
insight on why a particular publication is interesting to QRPers in
general. Perhaps it addresses operating or activities. Perhaps it
has a lot about building.

Please send to me (cebik@utkvx.utk.edu) any information you are
willing to share about publications, newsletters, and magazines.
Please include the item's name, # of issues per year, source or
publisher, the name and address of where to subscribe, and the cost
of subscription. Club publications, as well as other newsletters
and journals are eligible for inclusion if they have wider than
local interest. Even if you have sent Richard updates on your
organization, please also send some data to me on its publication,
if it would help QRPers to know about it.

Please do not send replies via the net list, but send them directly
to me, especially since I am requesting some data, plus some
further sentences of description.

I shall acknowledge all messages received, and if conflicting or
confusing information arrives from multiple sources, I'll consult
with all submitters to arrive at a common description. You have my
thanks in advance for your help in this project.

-73-
LB, W4RNL


```
  L. B. Cebik, W4RNL         /\  /\     *   /  /    /    (Off)(615) 974-7215
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  37938-4443     USA      /  \   \   \ \       ||        cebik@utkvx.utk.edu
```


From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 14:02:57 1995
Message-Id: <199501251735.LAA26471@ns1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Date: 25 Jan 1995 11:32:41 U
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Sloper Folded Dipole and tree ant.

Hello Dan,

There are no dumb questions! We all learn from the comments here.

I had not thought of using folded dipoles as a sloper until Dan questioned if
it would work. He indeed hit the main point, for a sloper to not interact with

its feed line, the feedline for a half wave sloper should come off at 90 degrees to the slant of the antenna. If this is followed, it should work.

Now any sloper may interact with its vertical support if that is a good conductor, like a tower. Some users take advantage of this by using a quarter wave sloper, fed against the tower as a counterpoise, ie, fed at the top, with the coax braid going to the tower.

I believe I have read long ago that the folded dipole in horizontal use is more broadbanded than a wire dipole. This probably is because of the larger effective diameter of the antenna when it is folded. This might be an advantage in the interaction with support environment of the usual sloper. I hope this is tried out and reported back. This also has me wondering about a quarter wave folded sloper; would that have a feedpoint impedance of 150 ohms instead of 300 ohms?

If you have a folded dipole, the feedpoint is usually reported at 300 ohms, which makes the use of a balun necessary to get to the usual 50 ohm rig output impedance. Parallel line feeds are lower loss, thus the balun in commercial tuners would be a way to change to the 50 ohm rig impedance. I would not mount the balun at the folded dipole center, in other words.

A general comment here: Most any antenna will work to some degree no matter how you deform it from the classic ways of using it. But for those balanced antennas such as center fed types, you do best to keep the feedline coming off at right angles to keep it out of the field of the antenna as much as possible. If you have a vertical antenna of less than half wave type, you have to have an image reflector, being either good conducting (at RF) earth, (which is pretty scarce), or a counterpoise or radial system. If a vertical is elevated off the physical earth, fewer radials will get by, than needed if the vertical is sitting directly on the ground. I don't want to provoke the experts any further than that.

The other question was whether you can use a tree to support a vertical wire, or attach the wire to the tree. The Army did some experiments back about Viet Nam time, on helical couplers that went around a tree trunk and loaded up the tree itself! Apparently it works if the tree is the sappy kind, rather than dried out. Some authors have reported in the last 5 years of amateur radio magazines that they support vertical wires from the limbs of tall trees, or one could use those stand off TV insulators that screw in and just use the tree trunk as the support.
You could start with the classic formulas for a vertical, and add 5 % to that and have some length in excess in case the tree interacts and changes the resonant length of the wire. The ARRL handbooks used to show a 2 X 4 board supporting a vertical wire using the TV standoffs, and if the tree does not have branches touching the wire it should work as well. It makes a great disguise antenna, if you are in one of those neighborhoods. Try it and let us know how much it changes the length of wire needed. In fact, if you have the

height, why not try a vertical folded dipole of twin lead on the standoffs screwed into the tree? I would get the lower end 6 feet off the ground to avoid interaction with pets and people. Again, if a half wave dipole, the feed line comes off at right angles. You also could make a quarter wave vertical monopole of twin lead, and tie the two wires together top and bottom for some greater area of conductor effect. That one you could feed with coax at the bottom, against some radials. Again, I prefer elevated verticals and radials, having tried both over my poor conducting soils. Be careful getting your vertical up the tree. I prefer the shoot a rope over a branch and hoist it up type, to any tree or ladder climbing. Safety first!
73, Stuart K5KVH

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 03:50:38 1995
From: carreiro@netcom.com (Paul Carreiro)
Message-Id: <199501250733.XAA25109@netcom8.netcom.com>
Subject: RE: Socal Meeting
Date: Tue, 24 Jan 1995 23:33:27 -0800 (PST)

Well, since I'm a "local" guess I should take up the flute and play the Pied Piper to gather all the little QRP rodents! There are quite a few restaurants in the area. Someone earlier suggested a Coco's. There is a Coco's restaurant on Marine Ave (Same as the TRW Swapmeet) at Pacific Coast Highway (west of the swapmeet). There is also a Denny's a few miles away if the concensus says nay to Coco's.
I suggest, as others have, that we gather at the swap at 10AM at the donut stand. As for a talk-in freq, I suggest 147.555 simplex.

Anyone planning on bringing any show-and-tell items for breakfast? I'm just starting my collection of QRP stuff and don't have any completed projects other than the OHR WM-1 QRP Watt meter. If anyone would like to see the WM-1 first hand, send some E-Mail and I'll ablige. I also have a collection of CW keys if anyone is interested. (Bencher, Vibroplex Iambic, Vibroplex Brass Racer, Shure "Profi") Again, just send some E-mail if you would like to check any of these out.

If you plan on joining us, please RSVP to me and I will send a reply with the list of attendees.

73/72 Paul N6HCS
carreiro@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 13:32:07 1995
Message-Id: <199501251633.KAA24982@ns1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Date: 25 Jan 1995 10:31:51 U
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Ten Tec 556 vs. 555 at low Power

To All:
Good comments and queries led me to check the Ten Tec manual for my Scout.

As I have said, the text section of the manual lists both model numbers and they make the statement the ONLY difference is the lack of the back panel heat sink with the finals on the 556.

When comparing these models to others, also note TT quotes single conversion receive and transmit. The Jones filter is 9 pole, with variable selectivity 500 Hz to 2.5kHz.

Band Coverage at 10 meters is on one plug in module with a switch; thus, the total coverage for 10 is 28 to 29 MHz, in 500 kHz increments.

Now as to DC power consumption: It does require 600 ma for receive.

The 555 Scout delivers RF from 5 to 50 watts, adjustable by the screwdrive pot under the case middle.

The Scout at 50 Watts draws 10 Amps DC; at 5 watts , draws 4.5 Amps DC.

The 556 Argo delivers RF from 1 to 5 watts, adjustable the same as Scout.

The Argo at 5 watts draws 2 Amps DC; at 1 watt, draws 1.3 Amps DC.

>From this you can see, they do not have a way to stop the quiescent DC drawn by the finals of the Scout, as this would have meant more switching. This leads to the question, if you opened the DC line to them with an added switch, would they just act as capacitors and couple the 5 watt RF level to the output filters, without a mismatch problem? This would let the Scout do as well as Argo on DC draw perhaps.

However, with 600 ma needed for both models receiver function, one must have a robust Gel Cell for battery operation anyway. Just thought it was an interesting project. There is room on the back for such a switch. My thought on getting the Scout was I could resell it easier as a QRO rig but that is not likely, as I still have all my transmitters except those that were rebuilt into something else!

BTW for Chuck Adams; 40 was going down last nite, but with QRP SSB worked northern Virginia. 20 sounded dead, but a SSB ZL2 was fading in and out on 14.275. This on the Gap Titan Vert. GL to the SSB fox tonite!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 19:26:37 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 17:34:52 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Subject: Re: Ten Tec 556 vs. 555 at low Power
Message-Id: <Pine.ULT.3.91.950125171219.3776A-100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

As some more follow-up on using the Scout or new Argo for QRP field work: Both rigs draw about 600 ma in receive. From what I can tell most of the current goes to driving the LED's. My Argosy Digital is the same but you can switch off the display saving lots of current for low power receiving - this is all possible in the Argosy Digital since the Argosy has a tuning knob with a decently calibrated skirt on it to let you know what 100Kc (KHz that is) frequency you're on. The Scout/Argo has an unmarked dial - bummer. What would have been innovative for Ten Tec (and by the way I don't think Ten Tec is as innovative as their competition - OK stop shooting those arrows...) would be to switch to a low power LCD display - probably lower power and less display noise (the Ten Tec displays are noisey especially with earphones).

Anyway sorry about this dribble - every once and a while I get on my band wagon hoping that the manuafacture will listen to some user feedback so they don't keep repeating the same design errors (I always hope they keep the good ones). The Scout was innovative since it used plug in modules but they could have updated it to a generation more than what the Argosy Digital offerred.

Now having said that if you look at the QRP Plus rig - that was innovative.

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

Disclaimer - no relation to either company , no axe to grind (I do like my Argosy) and no financial gain (just a poor ham.... ;-)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 23:06:37 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 20:50:25 -0500
Message-Id: <950125204902_6875272@aol.com>
Subject: Re: Ten Tec Argo 556

RTTY in the Navy - sounds familiar

I was a RM2 on the USS Sellers DDG-11 out of Charleston S.C. in the late 60's. At the time i had my General class license. Aquired the Advanced a month after I got out in 1970. I went on three 6 month Med cruises and four 6 week Caribbean cruises. Had a good time. Never did get used to sun burns in January, being from Mich and all. Went thru the Burmuda Triangle once and survived. I'm a believer.

I used a Vibroflex semi-iambic key and a Eico kit tube keyer for CW. Plugged it into the ships circuits and keyed up a WRT-2 transmitter or a URC-32 transceiver and pretended i was working DX. We had R-390 (tube) and R-1051

(synthesized) receivers. I saw a R-390 going for 350 dollars and a R-1051 going for 450 dollars at a swap last Sunday. Sure brings back memories.

On one of those six month cruises, i ran the Orestes circuit, 12 hours a day, calling up NavComSta Rota Spain and Athens Greece. Passing traffic (QRV 2P and 3R) on full duplex 100 wpm teletype circuits. maybe that explains why I'm not too interested in digital modes today. it seems too much like work.

Only operated a little amateur radio when in port. but sure did a lot of professional radio. got my fill. it took me 11 years after that to get back on the air again. thats when i got the Argonaut 509 and first got interested in QRP.

Was in from 1965 to 1969.

What ships were you on and what parts of the world did you see?

I wonder how many other ex Navy radio ops are on this list ?

72, Byron RM2 retired

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 02:59:47 1995
Message-Id: <199501250439.XAA16770@jfwhome.funhouse.com>
Subject: Re: TenTec Scout Current Req's
Date: Tue, 24 Jan 1995 23:39:08 -0500
From: "John F. Woods" <jfw@jfwhome.funhouse.com>

> I have the spec sheet for the Scout 555 in front of me:
> Power Required: @ 12-14 VDC; 600ma receive, 10A transmit
> @ 50 watts out, 4.5A @ 5 watts out. I feel better.

That's still roughly 50W DC input to the transmitter section for 5W output. I suppose that for backpacking in winter, the extra dissipation will help keep you warm, but lugging the car battery you'll need to keep it fed will probably help even more :-).

73, John, WB7EEL/1

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 11:18:14 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 09:26:26 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: TenTec Scout Current Req's
Message-Id: <Pine.ULT.3.91.950125090758.22825A-100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Hi Mike - I was the one mentioning the difference between the power usage in the Scout and the new Argo - it was based on my Argosy Digital which uses about the same power as the Scout (they are of similar design). 4.5

amps for 5 watts out is using more power than what would typically be
needed (out comes the calculator) so there is some inefficency in
throttling down the power amp from 50 watts to 5 watts - thus my comment
about limited battery operation for field use.

72

Bob Vo1DRB/WA6ERB

On Tue, 24 Jan 1995, Mike Robinson wrote:

>
> Someone post a note that mentioned the Scout using the same
> amount of power at 50 watts out as at 5 watts out. Since
> I've been considering getting one, this concerned me.
>
> I have the spec sheet for the Scout 555 in front of me:
>
> Power Required: @ 12-14 VDC; 600ma receive, 10A transmit
> @ 50 watts out, 4.5A @ 5 watts out. I feel better.
>
> If I misread the earlier post, please correct me.
>
> The one thing not clear on the spec sheet is how the
> power out is selected. Can anyone shed light on this?
>
> =-=
> 7.3 de Michael aa0ub   All computers, software and harddisks, crash.
> miker@cc.com
> =-=
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 12:26:18 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 08:28:27 -0500 (EST)
From: Jim Cummings <jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca>
Subject: Re: Winding toroids
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.90.950125082451.14947C-100000@clark.dgim.doc.ca>

On Tue, 24 Jan 1995 PeterWK8S@aol.com wrote:

> Anyone ever work out a rough formula for computing how much wire is needed
> for a given number of turns on a standard toroid? It be much simpler if I
> could figure out how much wire to hack off the spool before I start winding.
> Pushing/pulling too long a length makes more work than necessary. Any ideas
> out there?
>

> PeterWK8S
>

I recall that in Demaw's QRP notebook, he recommended doing a test winding with 5 turns, unwinding then measuring the test winding length. With that information you can extrapolate how much wire is required to construct the coil and add two inches to the final length for connection.

I hope this helps

73 and live better digitally
Jim, VE3XJ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 19:00:09 1995
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 12:28:37 -0800 (PST)
From: "John D. Spittle" <jds@freenet.vancouver.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Winding toroids
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9501251221.A25499-0100000@freenet.vancouver.bc.ca>

On Tue, 24 Jan 1995 PeterWK8S@aol.com wrote:

> Anyone ever work out a rough formula for computing how much wire is needed
> for a given number of turns on a standard toroid?

Wind say 10 turns on the toroid. Remove and measure it. Then make a note of this for posterity!! Do the same for all core diameters - you surely don't use that many.

72 Derry VE7QK

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Jan 25 21:15:25 1995
From: Gary M Diana <gmd@rfc.comm.harris.com>
Message-Id: <199501252040.PAA22104@usc02.rfc.comm.harris.com>
Subject: Winding toroids: Reference Material
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 95 15:39:59 -0500

Hello All -

   As far as estimating how much wire to wind on a given toroid, someone has already stated that doing a turn, taking it off, measuring it, then adding a couple inches, is one method.
   Another method is to get a chart put out by one of the toroid manufacturers that has toroid and inches per turn of wire required. The third method is to use a chart put together by a fellow QRPer, in a previous issue of the QQ (QRP Quarterly). Here is a copy of the

article I posted sometime ago on this curious topic.
    - Gary N2JGU

****

    There has been some discussion lately on how to estimate the amount
    of wire needed to wind a coil. What follows is a table which I
    copied from QRP Quarterly of October 1992. The article was by
    Michael A. Czuhajewski (WA8MCQ). If you have been reading QRP/
    Homebrew articles for any lenght of time, you'll note that Michael's
    name is on a great many toroid/coil/inductor articles.

    Please note that the inches per turn values DO NOT include any extra
    for hookup to the board (i.e. you should probably add a couple inches).
    The other disclaimer is that these values are for a single layer of
    wire, so if you're building a transformer, the secondary will
    probably require more wire than is calculated from the values below).

----------cut here---------------------------------

Wire Length for a variety of coil forms, taken from QRP Quarterly
October 1992 by Michael A. Czuhajewski WA8MCQ.

SIZE	INCHES PER TURN	SIZE	INCHES PER TURN
FT23	0.26	T12	0.19
FT37	0.5	T16	0.23
FT50	0.68	T20	0.29
FT50A	0.79	T25	0.37
FT50B	1.37	T30	0.47
		T37	0.49
FT82	0.93	T44	0.61
FT87A	1.53	T50	0.67
FT114	1.13	T68	0.8
FT114A	1.7	T80	0.92
FT140	1.73		
		T94	1.16
FT150	1.44	T106	1.57
FT150A	2.01	T130	1.6
FT193	2.22	T157	2.02
FT193A	2.51	T184	2.66
FT240	2.3		
		T200	2.13
		T200A	3.16
		T225	2.24
		T225A	3.28
		T300	2.39

T300A	3.54
T400	3.51
T400A	4.31
T500	4.28

--------cut here---

73, Gary N2JGU
gmd@rfc.comm.harris.com

Top Ten Reasons for using Toroids in that QRP Project.

10. You ran out of lifesavers and had to use something to hold the wire
 9. They come in nice colors
 8. Allows you to homebrew a transformer
 7. Look more impressive than those toko cans
 6. You actually like winding them
 5. You appreciate impedance matching between stages
 4. Your mother told you to use them
 3. It's the manly thing to do
 2. You're a charter member of the "Toroid of the Month Club"
 1. You don't read the QRP list and didn't realize that toroids are the root of all
    evil and may in fact be in the embodiment of the devil himself!